

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows:

1.(currently amended) A process for filtering an aqueous liquid using filter aids, which comprises filtering the aqueous liquid using as filter aid a particulate water-insoluble polymer preparation ~~comprising~~ consisting of at least one polymer P that is essentially made up of hydrophilic polymer segments and hydrophobic polymer segments, or of a mixture of said polymer P with a conventional filter aid.

Please enter the following new claims 15-27, which read as follows:

15.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least a part of the filter aid is applied to a filter cloth and the remainder of the filter aid is added to the liquid to be filtered during the filtration.

16.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount of polymer P in the particulate water-insoluble polymer preparation is at least 20% by weight.

17.(newly added) A process for filtering an aqueous liquid using filter aids, which comprises using as filter aid a particulate water-insoluble polymer preparation comprising at least one polymer P that is essentially made up of hydrophilic

polymer segments and hydrophobic polymer segments, wherein the hydrophilic polymer segments have a polyalkylene ether structure and the hydrophobic polymer segments are essentially made up of ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising at least 80% by weight of hydrophobic monomers A and optionally up to 20% by weight of comonomers B which are different from hydrophobic monomers A.

18.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein in polymer P the weight ratio of hydrophilic polymer segments to hydrophobic polymer segments is in the range from 1:1 to 1:100.

19.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein in polymer P the weight ratio of hydrophilic polymer segments to hydrophobic polymer segments is in the range from 1:2 to 1:50.

20.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the polymer P is obtainable by free-radical polymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising at least 80% by weight of the hydrophobic monomers A and with or without up to 20% by weight of comonomers B which are different from monomers A, in the presence of at least one hydrophilic polymer which forms the hydrophilic segments in the polymer P.

21.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the liquid to be filtered is a fruit juice drink or fermented beverage.

22.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 21, wherein the fermented beverage is

beer.

23.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the polymer preparation additionally comprises a conventional particulate or fibrous filter aid.

24.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 23, wherein the conventional particulate filter aid is selected from polyamides and polystyrene.

25.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the filtration is carried out as precoat filtration.

26.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least a part of the filter aid is applied to a filter cloth and the remainder of the filter aid is added to the liquid to be filtered during the filtration.

27.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the amount of polymer P in the particulate water-insoluble polymer preparation is at least 20% by weight.

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**COPY OF ALL CLAIMS**

- 1.(currently amended) A process for filtering an aqueous liquid using filter aids, which comprises filtering the aqueous liquid using as filter aid a particulate water-insoluble polymer preparation consisting of at least one polymer P that is essentially made up of hydrophilic polymer segments and hydrophobic polymer segments, or of a mixture of said polymer P with a conventional filter aid.
- 2.(original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein in polymer P the weight ratio of hydrophilic polymer segments to hydrophobic polymer segments is in the range from 1:1 to 1:100.
- 3.(original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic polymer segments are of nonionic nature.
- 4.(original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrophilic polymer segments have a polyalkylene ether structure.
- 5.(original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic polymer segments are essentially made up of ethylenically unsaturated hydrophobic monomers A.
- 6.(original) A process as claimed in claim 5, wherein the monomers A are selected from vinylaromatic monomers.
- 7.(original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer P is obtainable by free-radical polymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising at least 80% by weight of hydrophobic monomers A and with or without up to 20%

by weight of the comonomers B which are different from monomers A, in the presence of at least one hydrophilic polymer which forms the hydrophilic segments in the polymer P.

8.(original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer particles of the polymer P have a mean particle size in the range from 1 to 700  $\mu\text{m}$ .

9.(original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the liquid to be filtered is a fruit juice drink or fermented beverage.

10.(original) A process as claimed in claim 9, wherein the fermented beverage is beer.

11.(original) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polymer preparation additionally comprises a conventional particulate or fibrous filter aid.

12.(original) A process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the conventional particulate filter aid is selected from polyamides and polystyrene.

13.(original) A process as claimed in claim 11, wherein the filtration is carried out as precoat filtration.

14.(withdrawn)

15.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 1 wherein at least a part of the filter aid is applied to a filter cloth and the remainder of the filter aid is added to the liquid to be filtered during the filtration.

16.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount of polymer P in the particulate water-insoluble polymer preparation is at least 20% by weight.

17.(newly added) A process for filtering an aqueous liquid using filter aids, which

comprises using as filter aid a particulate water-insoluble polymer preparation comprising at least one polymer P that is essentially made up of hydrophilic polymer segments and hydrophobic polymer segments, wherein the hydrophilic polymer segments have a polyalkylene ether structure and the hydrophobic polymer segments are essentially made up of ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising at least 80% by weight of hydrophobic monomers A and optionally up to 20% by weight of comonomers B which are different from hydrophobic monomers A.

18.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein in polymer P the weight ratio of hydrophilic polymer segments to hydrophobic polymer segments is in the range from 1:1 to 1:100.

19.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein in polymer P the weight ratio of hydrophilic polymer segments to hydrophobic polymer segments is in the range from 1:2 to 1:50.

20.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the polymer P is obtainable by free-radical polymerization of ethylenically unsaturated monomers comprising at least 80% by weight of hydrophobic monomers A and with or without up to 20% by weight of the comonomers B which are different from monomers A, in the presence of at least one hydrophilic polymer which forms the hydrophilic segments in the polymer P.

21.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the liquid to be filtered is a

fruit juice drink or fermented beverage.

22.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 21, wherein the fermented beverage is beer.

23.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the polymer preparation additionally comprises a conventional particulate or fibrous filter aid.

24.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 23, wherein the conventional particulate filter aid is selected from polyamides and polystyrene.

25.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the filtration is carried out as precoat filtration.

26.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein at least a part of the filter aid is applied to a filter cloth and the remainder of the filter aid is added to the liquid to be filtered during the filtration.

27.(newly added) A process as claimed in claim 17, wherein the amount of polymer P in the particulate water-insoluble polymer preparation is at least 20% by weight.